

3.4.3 IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF MITIGATION MEASURES

Developing Identification and Analysis of Mitigation Measures

Project Staff assisted in the design and development of the Mitigation Strategy through a tier of meetings and coordination. During this phase of the planning process, the Plan Development Team identified, evaluated, and analyzed the comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions being considered. These actions are based on the evaluation of the risk assessment and in compliance with the mitigation goals and objectives in Section 3.4.2 (Local Hazard Mitigation Goals).

In the March 30 meeting, the Planning Team and Advisory Committee met in subcommittees to refine the draft Action Plan. Subcommittees were formed under the following Mitigation Topics: preventive and regulations, property protection and structural projects, natural resources, emergency services and public information. During the work sessions, subcommittee members reviewed projects relevant to their mitigation topics and focused on existing and future infrastructure. The subcommittees will continue to meet as ensure projects are implemented.

SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

I. Regulations & Preventive Measures

Chris Dickinson, Randy Stambaugh, & Curt Bynum, Facilitators

- Derek Guthrie, MSD
- Rick Storm, Public Works
- Susan Barto, citizen
- Adam Forseth & Jarrett Haley, KIPDA
- Mike Tully & Joe Mattingly, Planning Commission
- Robert Kirchdorfer, IPL
- Mary Woolridge, Louisville Metro Council
- Jay Mickle & Elise Just, PVA
- Rick Holstein, Greater Louisville Inc
- Kathy McGann, Greater Louisville Board of REALTORS

II. Property Protection, Structural Projects, & Natural Resource Protection

Bob Smith & Justin Gray, Facilitators

- Richard Pruitt & Andy Lowe, ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS, Engineering Division
- David Eastham, David Guy & Keith McBride, LG&E
- Dennis Minks, Louisville Metro Development Authority
- Bill Herron, Louisville Metro Parks
- Bob Holt, citizen
- Glen Mudd, Louisville Water Co
- Kurt Mason, NRCS

- Pam Dowland, CDM Associates
- Gordon Moert, Durst & Moert Developers

III. Emergency Services, Public Outreach & Information

Jim McKinney & Josh Human, Facilitators

- John Bastin & Diane Parrett, Area 6 Mgr
- Bill Wetter & Richard Wellinghurst, Louisville Metro Health Department
- Joe Johnson & John Fekete, Suburban Fire Districts
- Vince Bowlin, MSD
- Mike Griffin, USGS
- George Betz, American Red Cross
- Mike Callahan, NWS
- Chuck Fleischer, Jr., JCPS
- Marilyn Givan, MetroCall
- Marcy Heilman, EMA
- Glen Everhart & Michael Blair, U.S. Census Bureau
- Dave Simpson, U of L CHR
- Major Bill Weedman, Les Wilson & Denise Spratt, Louisville Metro Police Dept.
- Al Tronzo, Louisville Fire & Rescue
- Steve Rager & Marcella Denton, ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS, Emergency Mgmt & Security Branch
- Mike Riordan, Jefferson County EMS

Ongoing Mitigation Programs

Example Louisville Metro's emergency and mitigation program activities listed below demonstrate the ongoing efforts to mitigate the effects of natural hazards in Louisville Metro. As the ongoing programs are monitored, updated, and evaluated, the mitigation strategy outlined in this Plan can be incorporated into these programs. As a result, a comprehensive mitigation strategy will better prepare Louisville Metro for all hazards.

Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP): In the unlikely event of a chemical agent, the planning process between the US Army and FEMA assists state and local governments in improving emergency planning and preparedness in communities near chemical weapons storage sites in their community. This CSEPP process requires coordination of local military and civilian efforts and ensures that decisions will be made and carried out effectively in a crisis. The Louisville Metro EMA program has a coordinator to oversee CSEPP operations for the Metro area. Currently, a contingency plan is in place and annual exercises ensure preparedness and the usability of the plan.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT): The Louisville Metro EMA has a training program to help citizens become a first responder in their own neighborhood. The FEMA program consists of 20 hours of training that includes sessions on disaster preparedness, disaster medical operations, light search and rescue, terrorism, disaster fire suppression, and disaster

psychology, and team organization. Currently, there are 8 teams and over 130 people who have graduated from CERT. The training ends with a disaster simulation where team members get to practice the skills they have learned in the course. This program is structured under the guidance of KRS-39 A-F and is updated annually. Ongoing classes continue to be scheduled on a regular basis.

Facility Shelter Surveys/Disaster In-services-training: This program coordinates several activities that assist various private/public schools, colleges/universities, businesses, churches, and community groups in planning for disasters. This process usually starts with a facility visit to conduct a survey, which will identify and designate potential shelter safe areas. After the initial survey, several documents that will assist the facility in building their own emergency plan are presented. Annual in-service training for all potential hazard events is practiced. Tornado and Shelter-in-Place training are the most widely requested topics for in-services.

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC): The Emergency Management program is responsible for keeping records, completing hazard analysis for facilities, assisting facilities with production of their Tab Q-7, performing annual tabletop and full scale exercises with facilities that have extremely hazardous substances (EHS), ensuring compliance, and protecting the public by providing information about these local facilities. The Emergency Management program is also responsible for providing reports on the activities of the LEPC, as well as all funds generated through Title III activities to the State Emergency Response Commission.

Hazardous Material Emergency Response: The Emergency Management program supports the Hazardous Materials Program by participating in the on-call rotation, attending training, and responding, to chemical emergencies or other related events.

Healthcare Emergency Planning Committee (HCEPC): The Healthcare Emergency Planning Committee (HCEPC) is a partnership among hospitals, healthcare providers, and public safety agencies to enhance emergency preparedness. The HCEPC has established a mutual aid agreement, which helps hospitals assist each other during disasters. HCEPC serves as the committee of the Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) and partners with the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness program. The HCEPC is also involved with emergency planning, training, and exercises, and coordinating with emergency management, police, and fire.

Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS): The Metropolitan Medical Response System is an ongoing effort by the public health and safety community in Louisville Metro to plan for serious health and medical catastrophes that threaten public health (terrorism, epidemics, etc.), to

develop systems for coordinating and providing critical care where it is needed and to purchase medicine and equipment.

National Defense Medical System (NDMS): The National Disaster Medical System is designed to care for the victims of an incident, like 9-11, that exceeds the medical care capability of an affected state, region, or federal medical care system. NDMS plans for treating large numbers of casualties in a major peacetime disaster or national security emergency involving a conventional military conflict. The Emergency Management program is responsible for coordinating efforts with local hospitals, the Department of Defense, FEMA, the Veterans Administration, and Health and Human Services in the event of the activation of this system.

Medical Reserve Corps (MRS): From the USA Freedom Corps national initiative Louisville Metro EMA coordinators the Medical Reserve Corps. The MRS allows experienced Health Professionals, over 810 volunteers, to use their expertise in times of need. The MRS units consist of locally based medical health care personal, practicing, retired or otherwise employed such as doctors, dentists, nurses, pharmacists and others who can assist their communities during emergencies.

Severe Storms and Earthquake Preparedness program: each year the State of Kentucky has two months set aside for local communities to participate in Severe Storms and Earthquake Preparedness activities. The Louisville Metro EMA compiles a calendar of events for both preparedness programs. Local activities include a comprehensive outreach program and a drill at one or more local and private schools caps off the month-long activities.

Terrorism & Weapons of Mass Destruction: Louisville Metro EMA staff has received training for any event that might disrupt normal daily activities, such as terrorism or the use of a weapon of mass destruction. Louisville Metro EMA attends regularly scheduled training sessions and response is incorporated into the Emergency Operations Plan.

Tornado Weather Spotter Program: the National Weather Service sponsors The Weather Spotter program. The Emergency Management staff coordinates with the NWS to train various groups around the community to become Weather Spotters. These trained people are the local eyes and help the NWS warn the public of possible severe weather.

Warning Systems: Louisville Metro EMA manages and coordinates the Outdoor Warning System, which consists of 122 Sirens in various locations around the Metro area. These devices are activated from the 24-hour warning point(s) at three 911-communication centers. The system is tested monthly with weekly diagnostic tests performed silently. Standard operating procedures for the siren operation are developed and reviewed annually.

Other warning systems located at the 24-hour warning point include Emergency Alert System (EAS), Metro-Call, and the Cable Interrupt system. Warning systems that are monitored include the NOAA weather radio and several computer generated weather programs to keep a watchful eye on possible weather conditions that would affect Louisville Metro.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP): Louisville Metro has taken advantage of several opportunities to garner federal money in a post-disaster setting. As a result, acquisitions have taken place all over the county. See Appendix 17, Louisville Metro Mitigation Acquisitions for a series of maps showing areas of the Metro where mitigation has taken place.

Map Modernization: In a partnership between MSD and FEMA, the Effective FIRMs for the Louisville Metro area are currently being updated into the DFIRM format. All mapped flood hazard areas are being redelineated or restudied. The newly developed flood hazard areas will provide a more accurate depiction of risk within the Louisville Metro area. By utilizing LOJIC's extensive, detailed geographic data as a basemap, the DFIRMs will be a very effective management tool for the community. The maps are currently being reviewed by the community and should be adopted by Spring 2006.

Hazard Information Portal: Through a grant provided by FEMA Region IV to Louisville Metro, MSD, State, and local partners are developing a hazard information portal for centralized dissemination of risk information to community officials and the public. The portal will initially focus on hosting flood information related to Map Modernization, floodplain permitting, and various FEMA programs. In the second phase, by working with Louisville Metro Emergency Management Agency and University of Louisville's Center for Hazards Research, additional natural hazards modules will be designed for hosting hazard-related data. The site is anticipated to communicate 'real time' with state and national platforms and serve as a two-way conduit for downloading and uploading the most up-to-date information. The portal research began in late 2004 and will be functional by September 2006.